



New York State Senate
Albany, NY 12247

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
New York State
Senate



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR BRIAN A. BENJAMIN

wants your voice to be heard



"I'm voting because I want my voice to be heard by leaders I choose."

DON'T FORGET
General Election
Tuesday, November 7, 2017

Post your Voter Selfie [#IVoteBecause](#)



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR BRIAN A. BENJAMIN, DISTRICT 30



MILLENNIAL

TASK FORCE

HARLEM. EAST HARLEM. UPPER WEST SIDE.

Millennial political power is growing. Yet we tend to have the lowest voter turnout of any age group. Young adults vote less than older demographics in presidential elections. The gap is even greater in mayoral elections. Despite the recent uptake in youth activism and community service, youth are still alienated from local government and civic engagement. **State Senator Brian A. Benjamin** is empowering young professionals, activists, artists, students, and community leaders to close the gap.

"Tackling our issues, Serving our neighborhoods, Forcing change in our community."

To engage with the Millennial Task Force, contact **Luther D. Isler** isler@nysenate.gov

212.222.7315 benjamin.nysenate.gov @NYSenBenjamin BenjaminForNewYork



On **November 7, 2017** there are General Elections in every State. In NYC alone, there are **over 60 offices up for election**. However, only 1-in-5 eligible voters show up for local elections. While national elections get the media attention, **local elections in many ways have a more direct impact on people's lives**, on such issues as the availability of affordable housing, the quality of the schools our children attend, police-community relations, the availability of quality jobs, etc. **Read on to know whats at stake. Then be heard!**

MAYOR:

The Leader of City government.
Sets priorities for City government, on such issues as jobs, housing, education, and more.

- Creates the city's \$85 billion dollar budget.
- Appoints commissioners of city agencies and boards.
- Works with City Council to create laws.

COMPTROLLER:

The City's Chief Financial Officer.
Sets rules on how the City can spend its money, and conducts audits to make sure that the rules are being followed.

- Makes sure that New Yorkers receive quality services in all areas, such as jobs, wages, housing, education, etc.
- Can audit public schools to determine if funding is being used properly.
- Can examine how much the City spends on inmates and use that information to make recommendations for the criminal justice system.

BOROUGH PRESIDENT:

The advocate for their borough.
Makes sure that community needs in areas like jobs, education, public safety and more are met.

- Grants money, or funds organizations in their borough. About \$4 billion dollars of the City budget is set aside so that Borough Presidents can fund organizations.
- Can stimulate economic growth by creating programs that support local businesses.

(Borough President Continued)

- Can give funds to city universities and public schools for anything from building repairs to software updates.
- Can advocate and stand up for issues in their communities and hold town halls to hear from residents on such issues as police-community relations.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE:

The people's representative in City government. Responsible for looking into complaints about city agencies and services like jobs, education or housing, including filing law suits on behalf of New Yorkers when possible.

- If the Mayor is unable to perform their duties, the Public Advocate steps in and performs them.

CITY COUNCIL:

The law-making branch of New York City's government that is divided into 51 different districts, with one member in each district.

- Makes and passes laws.
- Negotiates changes and approves the Mayor's City budget.
- Approves changes to rules on how City land is used.
- Makes sure city agencies are properly serving the people of NYC.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY:

The chief legal representative of a county. Has the duty to set policies on how the law is enforced. This duty extends to the ethical requirement of seeking justice and not merely convicting a person charged with a crime.

Proposals on the Ballot:

- Proposal 1: Calling a State Constitutional Convention *[to revise New York State constitution]*
- Proposal 2: Allowing the complete or partial forfeiture of a public officer's pension if he or she is convicted of a certain type of felony
- Proposal 3: Authorizing the Use of Forest Preserve Land for Specified Purposes

To learn your polling location, go to <https://nyc.pollsitelocator.com/search>.

NEW YORK STATE SENATOR BRIAN A. BENJAMIN, DISTRICT 30



District Office:

State Office Building
163 West 125th Street, Suite 912
New York, NY 10027
212.222.7315

Millennial Community Coordinator:
Luther D. Isler isler@nysenate.gov

Youth & Young Adult Community Coordinator:
DeShaundra J. Johnson johnsond@nysenate.gov



212.222.7315



benjamin.nysenate.gov



@NYSenBenjamin



BenjaminForNewYork